



The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation

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March 14, 2007

Nancy Theodore
USDA, Food and Nutrition Service
Food Distribution Division
3101 Park Center Drive, Room 506
Alexandria, Virginia 22302
Via E-mail: nancy.theodore@fns.usda.gov

RE: Proposed FDPIR Funding Methodology

Dear Ms. Theodore,

The Colville Confederated Tribes has reviewed the proposed FDPIR Funding Methodology initiated by the workgroup. Review of the information provided and consideration of the Colville Confederated Tribes history of the FDPIR program, we are submitting the following conclusion.

The Colville Confederated Tribes opposes the draft Funding Methodology because it does not take into consideration the unique operational needs of the Tribe. The Colville Confederated Tribes has a land base of 1.4 million acres and serves Indians within a 15 mile radius of the Reservation. The funding methodology does not take this into consideration if each ITO should receive the same base amount and the extra costs necessary to operate our program is not acknowledged.

The Colville Confederated Tribes would also like to recommend to USDA that consideration of the cost of living allowance be included in the Funding Methodology. The Tribe values it's outstanding FDPIR staff and would like to pay them accordingly. Past funding has not allowed the annual cost of living allowance.

The Colville Confederated Tribes recognizes the hard work that the workgroup has put into developing a fair formula and will continue to support their efforts.

Sincerely,

Michael Marchand, Business Council Chairman
Colville Confederated Tribes